



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



*Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.*

**DATE: December 15, 2015**

(Weeks of November 29 – December 14, 2015)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

*This report represents the county that the event took place within, not the assigned county of the Conservation Police Officer.*

## **REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

### **District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis**

**(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)**

#### **CARROLL COUNTY**

During the first firearm gun deer season CPO Jones cited a Tinley Park man and a Lagrange man for possession of another's deer permit. A 5 point buck was seized and donated to Sportsmen Against Hunger. The Tinley Park man was also issued a written warning for failure to immediately tag deer.

During the second firearm deer season CPO Jones cited a Braceville woman for operation of her ATV on the roadway. She was traveling southbound on Illinois Route 84. The woman was issued a written warning for not having her driver's license on her person.

Seven District One Conservation Officers conducted a ginseng detail in District One. All of the ginseng dealers or growers (12) in the District (except one) were inspected the same day. Two records-keeping citations and five written warnings were issued during the course of the detail.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

During the second firearm season, CPO Posateri checked a deer hunter who was headed to his stand. When asked to see his deer permits, the hunter handed the CPO a deer permit which had already been separated and there was blood on the permit. The hunter said he had shot a doe during the first season, but the harvest records did not show any deer checked in for 2015. An investigation revealed the hunter did not shoot a deer the first season but had tagged his relative's deer since the hunter had left her permit at home. Both parties were issued citations for the violations.

CPO Posateri was patrolling Henry County by ATV in an area of trespassing complaints. The CPO was approached by an angry hunter who did not recognize the CPO. The hunter began yelling at CPO Posateri but once she identified herself as a Conservation Police Officer, the hunter apologized. A compliance check was made with the hunter and he was found to be in violation of no hunting license, no habitat stamp, no blaze orange cap, and unplugged shotgun. Citations were

issued and during the check, the hunter had discovered his trail camera had been stolen in the past week by someone trespassing. The hunter thanked CPO Posateri for being in the area and later called to provide possible suspect information.

#### JODAVIESS COUNTY

CPO Jones received a TIPS complaint about a man hunting without blaze orange on during gun season at Witkowsky Wildlife Area. CPO Jones met with the complainants and found the subject. The subject was out squirrel hunting during the closed season and wasn't wearing any orange. The Rockford man was cited for entry into a restricted area and hunting squirrels during a closed season. His five squirrels were seized as evidence and he was issued written warnings for no blaze orange and no windshield card.

A month long investigation ended this weekend. The investigation involved the illegal taking of whitetail deer in JoDaviess County. CPO Steve Beltran issued a Hanover man 11 citations for charges including illegal take and possession of deer, failure to tag deer, and falsification of IDNR records. Officers seized a 7mm rifle, three sets of deer antlers, and approximately 120 lbs. of processed deer meat.

#### LEE COUNTY

While patrolling Green River State Wildlife Area, Sgt. Tony Petreikis located two subjects hunting from the highway. Further investigation revealed that both subjects were in possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia. Both subjects were cited for the drug violations, hunting from a highway and one subject was cited for hunting under the influence of cannabis on a state site.

#### MERCER COUNTY

CPO Posateri was patrolling Mercer County by ATV after a complaint of someone hunting on a property without deer permits. The CPO was approached by a hunter and wanted to know why they were on their property. CPO Posateri then identified herself as a Conservation Police Officer. The Aledo man did not have his hunting license or deer permits with him in the field, nor was he wearing a blaze orange cap. He had also transported the uncased gun to the field on a UTV. The CPO followed the hunter to his house to check the license and permits. A citation was issued for the uncased gun and written warnings were issued for the other violations.

#### OGLE COUNTY

A 34 year old man from Dixon was bragging on Facebook about a whitetail deer he had killed. CPO Beltran had seen the violation and investigated which resulted in his arrest. The man paid a \$2,000 fine and will be assessed points against his hunting license.

#### STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Jones cited a Lena man for failure to immediately tag deer.

A 32 year old man from Freeport was arrested and charged with several counts of unlawful take of a whitetail deer. The investigation stemmed from a TIPS complaint. CPO Beltran seized several packages of deer meat and has issued several citations in multiple counties as a result of these violations.

A Monroe, Wisconsin man was arrested for driving under the influence of cannabis, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving with a suspended license, no insurance and possession of cannabis. CPO Beltran made the arrest on a rural Pearl City road during a traffic stop.

CPO ALT received a complaint call at home over the Thanksgiving weekend of a whitetail deer which was found dead in a field with a crossbow bolt (arrow) sticking out of its neck. The bolt was recovered and taken to the Illinois State Police Crime Lab for fingerprint analysis. Investigation is ongoing.

## WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Palumbo issued a citation and seized a whitetail doe and a full season "either sex" deer permit from a Fenton man during the second firearm deer season. The Whiteside County hunter was in violation of transporting and possessing an untagged deer. He advised he only had one "either sex" deer permit and did not want to use it on the small doe. The deer was donated to Illinois Sportsmen Against Hunger.

### **District 6 -Sgt Hank Frazier**

**(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)**

## BOONE COUNTY

CPO ALT is investigating a complaint from the Boone County Conservation District for unlawful taking of whitetail deer upon one of their properties. Investigation is ongoing.

## BUREAU COUNTY

CPO Finn checked a Geneva man deer hunting during the second firearm deer season. The man was found to be hunting over bait, he was not wearing orange, did not have his hunting license or habitat stamp. Upon further investigation it was found the man had killed a deer during the first firearm season from the same baited stand. The Geneva man received 7 citations and 2 written warnings.

## LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Wire was patrolling Starved Rock State Park when he noticed an individual come off of the trails an hour after dark. Starved Rock has numerous bluffs and waterfalls that make hiking after dark extremely dangerous. When CPO Wire confronted the male, he could see that the male was extremely intoxicated. The male was in possession of two bottles of Jack Daniels whiskey. The male was cited for possessing alcohol against posted regulations and warned about remaining in an area closed to the public. The male submitted a breath sample of .125. He was warned not to drive. Fifteen minutes later the male drove away in his truck. He was stopped and arrested for improper lane usage and DUI. He was lodged in the county jail.

CPO Kaufman located a father and 14 year old son archery hunting during the second firearm season. The father did not realize it was firearm season. The father received a citation for no blaze orange and several written warnings.

CPO Jansen assisted another agency in recovery efforts of stolen firearms dumped in the Vermilion River.

CPO Jansen arrested a subject for hunting over bait. One citation and two written warnings were issued.

CPO Jansen discovered two hunters with license and permit violations. One hunter did not have a license or habitat and the other was hunting without his permits or license in possession. One citation and one written warning were issued to each hunter.

## PUTNAM COUNTY

CPO Scott Wright received information that a subject shot a deer in Putnam County with a compound bow and did not check it in. CPO Wright investigated the Granville man. The investigation confirmed that the subject shot a whitetail doe and did not tag it or check it in. It was determined the violator's brother of Oglesby tagged the deer with his permit and checked it in. The Granville man was cited for failure to tag white tailed deer immediately upon kill, unlawful attempt to take over the limit of white tailed deer, failure to report kill of white tailed deer same day, unlawful use of another's permit.

## WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Fraser received a disposition from a watercraft OUI arrest made in July. The boat operator pleaded guilty and received a \$510 fine, 12 months court supervision, and will have to attend victim impact panels.

CPO Fraser received a disposition for possession of drug paraphernalia arrest. The subject was initially allowed to enter a Deferred Prosecution Program in Winnebago County. After failing to complete this program the subject received \$1008 in fines and 12 months court supervision.

Possession of a 2012 F150 was awarded to the Department this month. CPO Fraser applied for forfeiture of F150 from a felony DUI arrest in April. The defendant is still fighting the DUI charges and is currently wanted on a warrant for failure to appear.

During the first firearm deer season CPO Fraser spotted a vehicle parked at public hunting ground reserved for archery deer hunting. CPO Fraser checked the area and discovered a man in camouflage, with a bow, setting up a climbing deer stand. The man stated he was fairly new to hunting and was confused about the seasons. The hunter was issued a citation for no hunting license, a warning for no habitat stamp, and a warning for no blaze orange.

CPO Fraser assisted area CPOs in locating a man hunting within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling during the second firearm deer season. An elderly woman stated there was a hunter near her home sitting in a tree stand and she did not feel comfortable with him being so close to the house. CPO Fraser located the man and determined he was within 100 yards of the complainant's home. When CPO Fraser met with the man he discovered several empty beer bottles and a full 6 pack of beer at the base of the stand. CPO Fraser explained the 300 yard regulation and told the man to pack his things and find a new location. The hunter was issued a citation.

During the second firearm deer season, CPO Alt inspected and issued warnings to four different hunters in the field for not wearing sufficient blaze orange clothing while hunting.

During the second firearm deer season, CPO Alt inspected and issued warnings to two different hunters in the field for unsigned firearm deer permits.

During the second firearm deer season, CPO Alt attended and taught a snowmobile safety class in Boone County.

## **District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery**

**(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)**

## HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid was contacted by the staff at Big River State Forest regarding illegal hunting activities at the site. The officer drove to the site and encountered two individuals who were illegally hunting deer on state property. Multiple citations and warnings were issued to the violators.

## KNOX COUNTY

CPO Posateri was patrolling by ATV in an area with trespassing complaints. The CPO saw a truck driving through a field after shooting hours in the dark. The driver stopped to pick up another hunter which the CPO had already checked in the field. CPO Posateri followed the truck and there was a loaded uncased shotgun sitting on top of the back seat. The Galva man was cited for the violation.

## PEORIA COUNTY

On opening day of the second firearm deer season, CPO Lazzell and CPOT Rumfelt arrested a Peoria man on a Peoria

County warrant and for obstructing identification, unlawfully feeding /baiting deer, and trapping without a license. The subject was observed (not hunting) on property near a tree stand that was surrounded by trough feeders filled with corn and wild game feed. Also next to the feeders was a live trap baited with a chicken. It was determined the subject was trapping without a license and that he and the landowner had put out the bait. When asked for identification the Peoria man provided a false name in an attempt to hide the fact he had active arrest warrants in Peoria and Tazewell County. The subject was taken into custody and transported to the Peoria County Jail on the warrants and issued three citations for his violations. The landowner was later issued one citation for unlawfully feeding wildlife.

#### TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO Van Zant cited a subject for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill during the shot gun deer season.

### REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins

#### **District 2 – Sgt. Rich Riedel** (Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)

#### KANE COUNTY

CPO Siedsma conducted three unlawful deer harvest investigations. Two citations and a written warning were issued.

CPO Siedsma continued with investigations of hunting without permission complaints.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO Schreiber cited an archery deer hunter in Lake County for hunting deer without a hunting license.

CPO VanWiltburg cited a subject for hunting deer with the use/aid of bait in Lake County. The subject used shelled corn, acorn rage, and fresh apples. The subject was also issued written warnings for hunting within 100 yards (70) of an inhabited dwelling and making food available for wild deer.

CPO VanWiltburg finished a falsification investigation involving three subjects hunting in southern Illinois. It started out as a joint investigation with the Wisconsin DNR, with a subject that failed to report deer in both states. Two of the subjects were Wisconsin residents. The subjects were interviewed in Wisconsin, with one subject killing a buck without a non-resident Illinois deer permit. The subject had bragged about it on Facebook, but denied killing it when presented with the photo which was posted (with him and the buck). He confessed to using his friend's Illinois resident "either sex" deer permit two days after the initial interview. The initial subject was cited for failure to report deer harvest on same day of harvest. Two subjects were charged with falsification, failure to report deer harvest on same day of taking, and hunting deer without a valid permit. Numerous written warnings were also issued.

CPO Semenik set up a pheasant hunting detail at the Chain O' Lakes State Park. In less than three hours three separate hunters were cited for unlawfully hunting on the highway.

CPO Winters participated in the Shop with a Cop program with the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

#### McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Schreiber issued a written warning to a subject in McHenry County during the second firearms deer season for failure to check his deer in at the required check station. The subject utilized the phone call-in system and obtained a confirmation number and thought he was good.

Sgt. Riedel investigated a tip of a subject who had checked in a deer during the firearm season with an archery permit. During the investigation, it was also discovered that the hunter did not check in his deer on the same calendar day, because they had a few beers after the hunt and time slipped by. He also implicated his friend who gave a similar confession. The first hunter was charged with taking deer by use of a firearm without a firearm permit and failure to check in his deer. The second hunter was charged with failure to report his harvest.

CPO Winters and CPO Riedel waited for a subject to come out the field during the second firearm season. Two subjects were archery hunting during the closed season. Written warnings were issued.

CPO Winters issued a citation to a subject for unlawfully deer hunting without a habitat stamp.

CPO Winters issued a citation to a subject for failure to check in a deer on the same calendar day.

CPO Davis worked in Perry County for the 2<sup>nd</sup> firearm season and his activity is included on Region 5 report.

CPO Davis checked approximately 15 pheasant hunters and issued six written warnings for hunting upon the highway.

CPO Davis investigated a baited deer hunting area with further investigation pending.

CPO Davis investigated illegal deer stands on park property with further investigation pending.

CPO Hurt was conducting firearm deer enforcement in northwestern McHenry County. The hunter was located after two shots were heard just prior to the end of legal shooting time. A compliance check was conducted and the hunter was found field dressing an untagged 8-point white tail buck. The hunter produced a valid hunting license and habitat stamp, however had no valid deer permits. The hunter was cited for unlawful take of white tail deer and unlawful use of shotgun capable of holding more than three shells. The buck was seized as evidence and the hunter was released on a notice to appear.

CPOs Hurt and Semenik were conducting routine night patrol in western McHenry County. A vehicle was located on the shoulder of the road with no lights displayed. CPO Semenik approached the driver's side of the vehicle and noticed the male driver had his pants down and genitals exposed. Additionally, CPO Hurt detected the odor of burnt cannabis emanating from the passenger side of the vehicle. Cannabis and a hitter pipe were found during a search of the vehicle. The male driver was arrested for public indecency and possession of cannabis <2.5 Grams. The female passenger was also arrested for possession of cannabis <2.5 Grams and possession of drug paraphernalia. Both were cited and released on a notice to appear.

CPO Davis responded to a burglary to motor vehicle at Moraine Hills State Park. There are suspects in the case and further investigation is pending. The suspects are believed to have fled from CPO Semenik when he attempted to stop the vehicle for a separate traffic violation. The pursuit of the vehicle was terminated when the license plate was obtained and the vehicle's driver began driving recklessly.

CPO Semenik was running stationary speed radar at Moraine Hills State Park when two vehicles following each other closely were traveling 32 mph in the park's posted 20 mph zone. CPO Semenik followed the vehicles when the lead vehicle split off at Whitetail Prairie picnic area. CPO Semenik activated his emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop. The vehicle failed to stop and sped off exceeding speeds of 60 mph through the park and began traveling recklessly outside of the park, running a red light at a major intersection, before the pursuit was terminated due to the dangerous circumstances. An Illinois State Police Emergency Radio Network (ISPERN) was put out through multiple counties to locate the vehicle. Around the time prior to when the initial traffic stop was initiated a vehicle was broken into in one of the park's parking lots. Several valuable items were stolen. CPO Davis handled the burglary to motor vehicle case and the suspects are believed to be those who fled from CPO Semenik. The two suspicious vehicles were identified and license plate information was obtained and further investigation is pending. CPOs Hurt and

Vaughan also responded to the radio traffic in efforts to stop the fleeing vehicle and aided in the investigation of the two incidents.

OTHER: CPO Semenik worked the second firearm deer season in Region 5. He patrolled the counties of Massac, Pope, and Hardin.

CPO Semenik issued two citations and seven written warnings for various deer hunting violations.

CPO Davis worked in Region 5 for the second deer season. His activity is recorded there.

CPO Wagner worked in Region 1 for the second deer season. His activity is recorded there.

**District 3 – Sgt. Mark Simon**  
**(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)**

**GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPO Wollgast investigated a situation where money was found to be missing at Goose Lake State Park.

CPO Wollgast cited two deer hunters and a park patron for unlawfully entering Goose Lake State Park while it was closed during muzzleloader deer hunting.

CPO Anderson cited a hunter who was determined to have harvested a doe with archery equipment without having a valid deer permit. A second subject that assisted the hunter was issued warnings for his involvement.

**KANKAKEE COUNTY**

CPO Reid, Mieure and Farber conducted a night time hunting detail in Eastern Kankakee County. Two men were observed using a spotlight from a vehicle. Each was cited for unlawfully using a spotlight from a motor vehicle. Two hours later another vehicle was observed using a spotlight as well. The subject was cited for unlawfully using a spotlight from a motor vehicle and for having an uncased firearm.

CPO Vadbunker cited several hunters for unlawfully bow-hunting during the closed season (firearm season) at Kankakee River State Park.

CPO Vadbunker completed two commercial inspections. Both were found to be in compliance.

CPOs Mieure, Honiotes, Wollgast and Kasher conducted night deer enforcement at a very active location. No violations were observed.

CPO Vadbunker handled a TIP complaint of hunting without permission that was determined to be unfounded.

**WILL COUNTY**

CPO Reid cited a subject for unlawfully using a colony trap to trap muskrats and was issued several warnings as well.

CPO Wollgast concluded a very lengthy investigation into a fatal canoe accident.

As a result of a TIP investigation, a hunter pleaded guilty to hunting without permission of the landowner. CPO Mieure was the investigating officer.

CPO Bergland cited a subject for dumping trash/litter from a motor vehicle

**District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon**  
**(Counties: Cook & DuPage)**

COOK COUNTY
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A Mount Prospect man bought an “either sex” whitetail deer tag for firearm season to hunt Shelby County. The first day out he shot a doe and didn't want to waste the “either sex” tag he had. So, instead of tagging the doe legally, he went to the local Ace Hardware and bought an “antlerless only” tag to use so that he could keep hunting the next day with his “either sex” tag. CPO Gilmer explained what he had done wrong and why it was not fair to the deer and other hunters to do what he did. The man understood and was issued a citation for failure to immediately tag a freshly killed whitetail deer upon harvest.

With the unusually warm weather come unusual activities for December. CPO Gilmer was checking salmon fishermen in Diversy Harbor of Chicago which is not unusual for the time of year. What was unusual however was to see two jet skis flying around in the harbor throwing a huge wake on the "No Wake" sign and tangling several fishermen's lines. The fishermen were very upset and started to walk towards the Jet Ski operators. CPO Gilmer calmed the fishermen down and told them to let him deal with the operators. CPO Gilmer checked the two jet skis for mandatory safety equipment and found one Jet Ski lacking a sounding device and the other lacking a fire extinguisher of which each got a warning for. However, each also received a citation for creating a wake in a posted no wake area. Each Jet Ski operator said they knew better, especially after CPO Gilmer pointed out the "No Wake" sign they threw a huge wake up onto as they passed it. The operators also apologized for ruining the lines of the fishermen.

CPO Klemme has been responding to deer feeding complaints in Cook County. Several written warnings have been issued.

CPO Mooi and CPO Smith continue a commercial trapping investigation in Cook and the collar counties.

CPO Mooi conducted sport fishing enforcement on the Calumet River. One written warning was issued.

CPO Mooi and CPOT Poffenberger were heading to check a section of private property, known for hunting on the Cook and DuPage County line, when they encountered fishermen on the property. One fisherman was not in possession of a fishing license and a written warning was issued.

CPO Mooi taught the law portion of a Snowmobile Safety Course in Kenilworth.

CPO C. Vaughan worked the first two days of second firearm deer season in Boone County and issued several written warnings for minor permit violations.

CPO V. Smith, while on patrol with CPOT R. Poffenberger, received a complaint of illegal hunting activity in a wooded area in the vicinity of Chicago Heights. Upon investigation of the area and interviews with the property owners, a citation was issued for hunting without a valid permit.

CPO V. Smith and CPO J. Mooi are working an ongoing trapping investigation in DuPage and Cook Counties.

CPO V. Smith while on patrol in Catherine Chevalier Forest Preserve issued a written warning for feeding of whitetail deer.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol enforcing sport fishing laws in the area of the confluence on the Calumet River in Cook County. When a subject was checked for fishing license and creel limit compliance he began to act nervous. When his creel limit was checked it was learned he possessed over his daily limit of yellow perch. The subject was cited for the violation.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan when he observed two subjects fishing from a boat which had registration displayed that had expired more than two years earlier. CPO Whitchurch made contact with the boat and observed other watercraft safety violations onboard the boat. The operator of the boat was issued a citation for the watercraft registration violations and written warnings for the other violations.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan enforcing sport fishing regulations when he observed a group of four individuals fishing. When the group saw CPO Whitchurch, they immediately packed up their fishing gear and attempted to exit the area. One of the subjects broke away from the other three subjects and began to walk in the opposite direction. CPO Whitchurch checked the three subjects who were all in compliance. The fourth subject who walked in the opposite direction was cut off by CPO Whitchurch in a field. The subject informed CPO Whitchurch he did not have his fishing license on him when it was requested. A records check revealed the subject had not purchased a fishing license since 2013. The subject was issued a citation for unlawful fishing without a valid sport fishing license.

CPO Whitchurch conducted two Lake Michigan patrols with the United States Coast Guard. Because of the unseasonably mild weather for December, there were many boats on the water. Waterfowl hunters and sport fishermen fishing from boats were checked for compliance with State and Federal waterfowl hunting laws, sport fishing laws, and boating laws. A total of 14 violations were observed and enforced during the two patrols.

CPO Whitchurch was patrolling in Chicago when he observed an ATV being operated on a Chicago street, in a Cook County Forest Preserve, and on private property without the consent of the landowner. CPO Whitchurch made contact with the driver of the ATV and informed him of the laws. A total of four written warnings were issued to the young operator of the ATV. A family member was contacted and arrived on scene with a truck. The ATV was loaded into the truck and transported lawfully from the area.

CPO Whitchurch was patrolling in a State Fish and Wildlife Area in Chicago when he observed a subject disobey a stop sign, speeding, and failure to use a turn signal. CPO Whitchurch conducted a traffic stop on the subject when it was learned the plates on the subject's vehicle were suspended for a mandatory insurance violation. The subject did not possess valid proof of insurance as well. The subject was arrested for unlawful operation of a motor vehicle while plates suspended for a mandatory insurance violation and for unlawful operation of a motor vehicle without valid proof of insurance. He was issued written warnings for the moving violations. The subject will be due in court at a later date.

CPO Macias was checking deer hunters in various counties in southern Illinois and found most hunters were in compliance and few major infractions were noted

CPO Macias was checking deer hunters in St Clair County for deer hunting compliance. He came upon a truck that seemed to be hidden away from sight in a farm field. Upon checking the truck, CPO Macias found a gun case in the bed of the truck. CPO Macias decided to wait for the hunter to return to his vehicle. As he waited, a separate truck came out of the woods and told CPO Macias there was a guy in his field that should not be there. CPO Macias entered the woods and confronted the suspect. After talking with the suspect at length, it was determined his truck was parked in a location without permission and the location of the stand he was using was also in a location that did not belong to him. CPO Macias issued a citation for hunting without permission

CPO Macias was enforcing firearm deer hunting laws in Clinton County, when he came upon two vehicles. One was a late model Ford pickup truck, the other a 2014 Mercedes Benz. Recognizing a Mercedes is probably not a good hunting vehicle, CPO Macias investigated further. The owner did have several deer permits but was shown as not having a hunting license or HIP registration. CPO Macias approached the hunter and upon investigation it was determined the subject indeed did not have a hunting license or HIP registration. A citation and a warning were issued

CPO Macias was enforcing the second firearms deer season with CPO Ray in St Clair County. The CPOs responded to a hunting without permission complaint. The CPOs found the suspect and issued him a citation. After this encounter CPO Macias and CPO Ray ran into four hunters who were coming out of the woods after a successful hunt. Among the group,

one hunter did not have his blaze orange on and had a concealed carry handgun. The other two did not sign their deer permits. CPO Macias issued three warnings and one citation.

#### LAKE COUNTY

While checking Illinois Beach State Park, CPO Gilmer saw a truck backed into a parking spot on the south end of the state park. After a check of the vehicle he noticed a crossbow case and a couple crossbow bolts in the vehicle. CPO Gilmer decided to wait for the driver of the truck to come out of the state park. Over an hour and a half past legal shooting time, CPO Gilmer decided to enter the park to find the driver of the truck. Luckily, he found the driver of the truck because it happened to be an elderly male lost within the park and having trouble finding his way. The man thanked CPO Gilmer many times as they walked towards the exit and as he was getting into his truck he said laughing, "Now this will be our little secret. If my wife finds out I got lost, I won't be able to come back!"

### REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes

#### **District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

**(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)**

#### CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum arrested a Crawford County man on a warrant for possession of a stolen vehicle and transported the man to the Clark County Jail.

CPO Wellum arrested a Terre Haute, Indiana man for speeding 105 mph in a posted 45 mph zone. The man was transported to the Clark County Jail and also cited for no valid vehicle registration.

CPO Wellum investigated one TIPs complaint with no enforcement action taken.

CPO Wellum completed a commercial inspection of a Clark County outfitter who is no longer in business.

#### CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CPO Greuel cited a Charleston man for unlawful take of whitetail deer

#### SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Moody cited an Assumption man in rural Herrick for harvesting more than two antlered deer in one season. After an interview it was found that the man had shot two nice bucks with a bow and arrow and then harvested a large 10 point buck during firearm season. The man received a citation and multiple warnings. The 10 point rack from the firearm season was seized as well.

Sgt. McReynolds and CPO Greuel attended a Firearms Instructor Planning Workshop Meeting at the IDNR Headquarters in Springfield.

A Shelby County couple was cited by CPO Barnes for harvesting a deer without a valid permit and for improper tagging of a deer.

A Shelby County man was cited by CPO Barnes for illegally dumping four deer carcasses along a roadway.

## **District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson**

**(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)**

### **CHAMPAIGN**

CPO Viverito and CPOT Ausmus were made aware of a coyote tournament taking place in Champaign County. The two CPOs decided to set up a detail on the Champaign/Vermillion County line. The CPOs noticed a slow moving pickup truck and began to follow the vehicle. The truck would stop and illuminate fields with a red spot light. A traffic stop was conducted and a loaded rifle and several red spot lights were discovered. Both men were from Champaign County and received citations.

### **DEWITT COUNTY**

CPO Wright and his intern assisted Dewitt County with a motorist assist. The driver was very incoherent while talking with the deputy and a K9 was called in. The K9 hit on the vehicle and cocaine along with unmarked prescription pills were found. The driver was arrested by Dewitt County.

### **FORD COUNTY**

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus cited two male subjects in Ford County. One subject was issued a citation for having an uncased firearm in a vehicle and the other for taking an over limit of pheasants.

### **IROQUOIS COUNTY**

While on patrol in Iroquois County near Stockland, CPO Cottrell located two upland game hunters hunting without permission on the Kankakee Beaverville Southern Rail Line. In addition to both subjects being cited for hunting without permission, an additional warning was issued for no habitat stamp.

### **MACON COUNTY**

CPO Wright is working on several hunting cases in Macon County. Some of the cases include wanton waste of deer, hunting over bait, and use of another's tags to take deer.

CPO Wright was notified of several ducks and four Canada geese that were dumped whole. After receiving a tip on a subject, CPO Wright interviewed the subject and the Oreana man admitted to dumping all the ducks and geese in the creek. Citations were issued.

### **MCLEAN COUNTY**

CPO Graden completed an investigation from second firearm deer season which resulted in a Cooksville man being cited for unlawfully hunting whitetail deer by use or aid of bait. The hunter was also issued a written warning for not having a Habitat Stamp.

CPO Wright and his intern were working night hunters in McLean County when they observed a vehicle shine a spotlight into a field. The traffic stop resulted in no guns in the vehicle but open alcohol and cannabis was found inside the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

### **VERMILION COUNTY**

CPO Cottrell interviewed two suspects in Vermilion County in reference to a spot lighting complaint near Alvin. Both admitted to unlawful spotlighting of wildlife in addition to unlawful possession of road kill whitetail deer. Both suspects received multiple citations and warnings.

## **REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

### **District 9 – Sgt. Mark Wagner**

**(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)**

#### **ADAMS COUNTY**

CPO Blazinic interviewed two subjects during firearm deer season. Both subjects admitted to shooting two deer from the vehicle with a .243 rifle.

#### **HANCOCK COUNTY**

CPO Wheatley responded to a hunting accident during firearm deer season. Twelve hunters were involved in a deer drive. Three hunters were shooting at a deer when a hunter was shot in the abdomen. The hunter yelled he had been shot. One of the hunters drove a truck out in the field to meet him. They reported the accident by cellular phone as they drove towards the hospital. They met an ambulance in Ursa. The ambulance transported the hunter to Blessing Hospital in Quincy. The subject is expected to make a full recovery. The following day, Captain Maul, Sgt. Wagner, CPOs Meyers, Blazinic, and Wheatley went to the scene to collect evidence and reconstruct the accident. The accident is under investigation.

#### **MACOUPIN COUNTY**

CPO Gushleff responded to a call in reference to a subject, in the Lake Kaho area of Mount Olive, who was walking around with several guns. He was arrested for unlawful use of weapons upon a public way and was transported to the Macoupin County Jail last month. The same individual did the same thing this month. CPO Gushleff responded to the area and took the information. The individual was not in the area. The case was referred to the Macoupin County State's Attorney's office.

CPO Gushleff responded to a hunting accident. During firearm deer season, a hunter was sitting in a hang on stand, when the strap broke. The hunter fell to the ground and broke his hip. The stand was hanging in the tree for several years and the strap had rotted. The subject was not wearing a safety harness. The subject was transported by ambulance to Memorial Hospital in Springfield.

#### **PIKE COUNTY**

CPO Drone investigated a hunting accident. A hunter was firearm deer hunting and shot at a deer. When the hunter fired a second shot, he saw a flash. The hunter had some powder burns around his face and his finger was injured. He went to Illini Hospital in Pittsfield where he was treated and released. The hunter believes after the first shell was fired, part of the shell split and remained in the barrel causing an obstruction.

### **District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone**

**(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)**

#### **SANGAMON COUNTY**

CPOs Cochran and Tanke received information regarding a possible poached deer in Sangamon County. During the investigation, CPO Cochran discovered two 10 point bucks were taken illegally by the teenager. In addition, it was discovered two adults were involved and tagged the two illegal bucks with their tags. The teen was issued citations for failure to tag immediately upon kill and unlawful take of more than two antlered deer during the 2015-2016 seasons. Each adult was issued a citation for unlawfully tagging the teen's deer.

## **District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker**

**(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)**

### **BOND COUNTY**

CPO Matt Lentz issued a citation to a shotgun deer hunter for hunting over bait in Bond County.

CPO Tapley issued two firearm deer hunters citations for unlawfully hunting in Bond County with Clinton County permits.

CPO Tapley issued a hunter a citation after he was found to have a loaded shotgun in his truck.

### **CLINTON COUNTY**

CPO Lentz arrested a Carlyle hunter for duck hunting without a valid hunting license.

CPO Tapley arrested man for falsification of deer harvest records after the man was found to have shot a six point buck, and reported the harvest as a doe.

CPO Tapley stopped a vehicle for shining. A loaded rifle was in the bed of the truck and an uncased pistol was found in the back seat. A citation and warnings were issued.

CPO Tapley checked a firearm deer hunter on an ATV. The hunter had a loaded and uncased firearm in his hand. He was issued a citation.

CPO Tapley got a complaint about non-resident hunters hunting without valid permits. While checking hunters on the property in question, one hunter was found not wearing blaze orange, to be in possession of a .22 rifle and a crossbow, and did not have a habitat stamp. One citation and three warnings were issued.

CPO Tapley saw two deer hanging at a deer camp. When he saw the name on the tags he remembered seeing the hunter's vehicle opening morning and remembered the hunter only had one permit. After checking the hunter's records, it was found he had bought a permit opening day around 9 a.m. After interviewing the hunter, he admitted he had shot a doe and a buck at the same time, and then later bought a permit for the doe. He was issued a citation.

CPO Tapley has received complaints about hunting without permission on property in northern Clinton County. CPO Tapley found four duck hunters on the property. Each was issued a citation for hunting without permission.

CPO Tapley was off duty on Thanksgiving Day when he received a call about a hunter who had been seen hunting in Eldon Hazlet State Park in a restricted area. A Clinton County Sheriff's Deputy made contact with the hunter who was dressed in camouflage and was in possession of a bow and arrow. The deputy forwarded the information to CPO Tapley to handle when he returned to work. The deputy also informed CPO Tapley the hunter was a park worker at Eldon Hazlet State Park. CPO Tapley later interviewed the hunter who said he was pheasant hunting after he had gotten off of work at Eldon Hazlet. The man knew hunting ended at 1:00 p.m. but still went out hunting at 3:00 p.m. The man had bought a pheasant permit for that day and was using a bow and arrow to try to kill a pheasant. The man was issued a citation for hunting pheasants after 1:00 p.m. in a controlled pheasant hunting area, and a written warning for failure to wear blaze orange.

CPO Tapley taught a Snowmobile Safety Course in Aviston. Approximately 20 students were in attendance.

## JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Ray arrested a St. Clair County Subject for harvesting a 12pt. Buck with an “antlerless only” archery deer permit and failure to attach harvest tag immediately upon kill. The individual was archery deer hunting at Ferne Clyffe State Park in Johnson County. A 12pt. Buck walked by his location and he could not pass on taking such a big deer. The 12pt. head and rack was seized from a local Taxidermist.

## MADISON COUNTY

CPO Liebl instructed the law enforcement portion at a hunter safety class in Wood River. Approximately 80 students were present at the class.

While patrolling Madison County during firearm deer season, CPO Liebl overheard an ISPERN (Illinois State Police Emergency Radio Network) broadcast in reference to a pursuit involving a stolen vehicle on I-70. Being close to the highway where the pursuit was heading, CPO Liebl staged at an exit in case assistance was needed. As the pursuit passed the exit, CPO Liebl fell in behind the two lead squads. As the pursuit crossed into Bond County, the secondary vehicle was called off and CPO Liebl took over that position by calling out locations and speeds. During the pursuit, a passenger was seen throwing items, such as a ski mask out the window. Bond County officers were able to deploy spike strips and help slow the vehicle approximately 40 miles from where it had started. After veering off the highway and getting stuck in the ditch, the male and female occupant were taken into custody. A handgun and possible narcotics were found in the vehicle. The male passenger was also wanted out of Missouri.

CPO Liebl investigated a deer permit case involving a Madison County man who shot a deer in Union County without purchasing a permit first. The man confessed to what he had done, saying he was unable to find a store open to purchase the permit before hunting. The man was cited for archery deer hunting without a valid permit and warned for failing to tag his deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Liebl was contacted about a person possibly hunting without permission on property in Madison County. A check of the man who was hunting showed he did not have any license, stamp, or permit due to being revoked for not paying child support. The man was issued citations and warnings for no valid hunting license, no habitat stamp, and no valid deer permit.

## MARION COUNTY

CPO Ray arrested a St. Clair County subject for harvesting a 3 pt. buck without a valid permit, hunting license, habitat stamp and failure to attach harvest tag immediately upon kill. The subject was archery practicing on private property in Marion County when a 3 pt. buck walked too close to the practice area. The subject stated it was the best shot he had ever made. The 3 pt. rack was seized from the subject’s residence.

## MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner and CPOT Knop were on foot patrol during second gun deer season on an IDNR property closed to hunting. They encountered an archery deer hunter (closed season) who was not wearing blaze orange clothing and possessed a loaded .38 caliber semi-automatic pistol. The subject did not have any firearm deer permits and did not have a FOID card. The pistol and archery equipment were seized and the officers traveled to the violator’s house to speak with the youth’s father. In consideration of the youthful violator’s age and inexperience with hunting, he was issued numerous warnings and two citations and a current Hunting Digest. The handgun was returned to the father (who had a valid FOID card) and both officers spent a fair amount of time educating and encouraging the youth to familiarize himself with the game laws.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CPO Lentz arrested a Carlyle hunter for duck hunting without a valid hunting license.

CPO Lentz arrested an O'Fallon hunter for having a loaded gun in the field after legal shooting time for gun deer season.

CPO Lentz arrested an Alhambra hunter for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Lentz arrested a Hillsboro hunter for shotgun deer hunting without a valid hunting license.

Lentz arrested a Palmer hunter for failure to have valid deer permit in possession while shotgun deer hunting.

CPO Lentz arrested a Mt. Olive logger for failure to show accurate records on his daily hauling log.

CPO Lentz arrested a Morrisonville hunter for feeding of deer during shotgun deer season.

CPO Lentz arrested a Bethalto hunter for archery deer hunting with another hunter's deer permit in his possession.

CPO Lentz arrested a Mt. Olive hunter for archery deer hunting without a valid deer permit in his possession.

CPO Lentz arrested a Witt hunter for shining of wildlife with his vehicle.

CPO Lentz arrested a Bethalto hunter for archery deer hunting without a valid permit in his possession.

CPO Lentz arrested a Litchfield hunter for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Lentz arrested a Butler trapper for failure to check his traps each calendar day.

CPO Lentz arrested a Nokomis shotgun deer hunter for possession of another's deer permit while in the field.

CPO Matt Lentz issued a citation to a trapper in Montgomery County for trapping without permission.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Charles was on patrol in Randolph County during the second firearm deer season. He observed a UTV driving along a gravel road near a block of timber. CPO Charles stopped the vehicle and performed a compliance check. During the check he discovered that the hunter was in possession of an uncased and loaded shotgun. CPO Charles later discovered that the firearm was loaded with unplugged and loaded with four shotgun slugs. The hunter was cited for the violations.

CPO Ralph Sievers completed an investigation that originated during the first firearm deer season. A hunter who was hunting on his property observed two individuals exit a truck at the City of Evansville's baseball diamonds and entered into the haunted trail woods. The individuals were wearing camouflage and possessed shotguns. One subject observed the hunter and walked back towards town. CPO Sievers was called by the complainant and responded to the scene. The illegal hunters were not located. After dark, the complainant observed the same truck return to park so he blocked it in with his vehicle. The driver of the vehicle walked away from the truck. CPO Sievers was called by the complainant and returned to the scene. The investigations revealed that a father and daughter were dropped off by a friend so they could firearm deer hunt the City of Evansville property. The male subject who dropped off the hunters was issued citations for criminal trespass to property and accessory to hunting without permission. The daughter was issued citations for hunting without permission and unlawfully hunting within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling without permission. She also was issued written warnings for obstructing a police officer by completing a false police statement and for not having a valid FOID card. The father was issued citations for hunting without permission, unlawfully hunting within 300 yards of an inhabited dwelling without permission, and for obstructing a police officer by completing a false police statement.

CPO Ralph Sievers received a complaint about a firearm deer hunter shooting too many deer. The complainant heard several shots from the neighbor's property. He walked to the property line and observed three dead deer in the field and a hunter walking towards them. CPO Sievers went to the deer camp and observed three dead does hanging and

spoke with the hunters. The hunter who matched the physical description from the complainant admitted to shooting the three does on the property. Two of the deer were recorded as Randolph County harvested deer and the third deer was recorded as a Monroe County deer. The hunter stated that he thought he missed the second deer that he shot so he shot at the third deer. When he went to the two deer that he knew were shot he found the third deer. The hunter was issued a citation for unlawfully taking a deer without a valid permit.

CPO Ralph Sievers received a complaint from a local outfitter about a button buck that was stashed under a bush. CPO Sievers was taken to the location of the button buck and documented the evidence. The outfitter has a contract that states any hunter to harvest a button buck is charged a \$500.00 fine. The paid hunter who had hunted the stand for two days recorded a 10 point buck harvest and then left the next day. The outfitter has a contract that states any hunter who kills a button buck is charged a \$500.00 fine. The investigation revealed that the hunter shot the 10 point buck and then about two hours later he shot what he believed to be a doe. When the hunter identified the button buck he stashed it into the bushes and then field dressed his buck. The hunter will be paying the outfitter the \$500.00 fine for shooting a button buck. The hunter was issued citations for wanton and waste of a deer and failure to tag a deer upon immediate kill.

CPO Sievers completed an investigation into a baited waterfowl area. The hunters had mowed milo to make their potholes in front of the waterfowl pits. The milo had produced seeds before they had mowed it. CPO Sievers located two hunters hunting from one of the pits and they had killed six ducks. An inspection of the pothole revealed that there was still viable milo seed that had been manipulated that the waterfowl could eat. The two hunters received citations for unlawfully hunting waterfowl over bait and written warnings for not maintaining separate bag limits.

## **REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber**

### **District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

**(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline, White)**

#### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

CPO Lay started an investigation into the illegal harvest/possession of deer case by a non-resident firearm deer hunter.

CPO Lay cited a Franklin County archery hunter for harvesting a deer prior to getting his permit.

CPO Williams discovered an out of state deer hunter hunting during the second firearm season with a shotgun. The hunter was in possession of a muzzleloader only permit. He was issued a citation for possession of a firearm not authorized for muzzleloader deer hunting. The outfitter providing services to the hunter has a previous citation pending for an outfitting violation.

#### **GALLATIN COUNTY**

CPO Schoenhoff issued a citation for not having a life jacket in the boat for each person.

#### **HAMILTON COUNTY**

CPO Schoenhoff is working on an investigation with out of state Wildlife Officers for sharing tags among other permit violations.

#### **HARDIN COUNTY**

CPO Johnson received information on Mississippi hunters. The hunters were reported to be hunting over a baited area. During the 2nd firearm deer season CPOs Johnson and Diggins located the baited area and observed a hunter in a tower blind. They walked the area and discovered three large feeders with corn inside. Fresh deer blood was also located near the feeders. The hunter admitted to knowing about the bait and gave information to locate the subject

who killed 2 deer from the location. The investigation also led to the discovery of another subject who failed to report a deer harvest from the first firearm deer season. Five citations were issued including two for hunting over a baited area, unlawful take, transporting uncased firearm, and failure to report harvest. Multiple written warnings were issued for permits not in possession, no hunting license, no habitat stamp and chronic wasting violations.

CPO Williams cited three men for failure to tag four deer. Warnings were issued for an uncased muzzleloader; blaze orange violation, unsigned permit, in possession of a firearm without a valid FOID (but eligible, expired 2010).

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Lay cited two waterfowl hunters on Rend Lake for unlawfully hunting within the 200 yards between hunting parties. The hunters were contacted on the lake and a range finder found them to be within 110 yards of the complainant's boat.

#### POPE COUNTY

CPO Johnson watched a subject shoot multiple shots into a pond. He approached the subject and discovered he was unlawfully shooting at a beaver. A further interview revealed the subject was a convicted felon. The gun was seized and the subject was taken to jail. He was charged with unlawful possession of a gun by a felon, unlawful possession of ammunition by felon, no hunting license, and unlawful take of beaver. He was given a \$25,000 bond.

#### SALINE COUNTY

CPO Diggins received a dumping complaint on Sunday of the second deer season in Eldorado. The caller reported a two mile blood trail leading out of Eldorado to a rural country road. The blood trail was traced back to a pole barn in Eldorado. The homeowner when confronted immediately gave the names of two Eldorado men responsible. As a result of the investigation and interviews, it was determined that the deer were illegally shot by rifles at night by the aid of a motor vehicle and spotlight. After just removing the back straps and shoulders, the men drug the deer out of town with a dually pickup. Numerous charges are pending in the case.

### **District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt**

**(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)**

#### CLAY COUNTY

CPO Holland observed two subjects dressed in blaze orange traveling on an ATV. The subjects left a field, entered the roadway for short distance and drove into a cow pasture. CPO Holland approached the subjects and observed two loaded uncased guns. CPO Holland issued one citation to each subject for possession of uncased firearm on vehicle and one warning for illegal operation of ATV on roadway.

CPO Holland observed subjects dressed in blaze orange deer hunting in a field pasture. The subjects returned to a truck which then drove through the pasture and parked. CPO Holland approached the subjects and immediately noticed a salt block and two dead deer in a nearby wooded area. CPO Holland inquired as to who shot the deer. Initially, the subjects lied and stated each hunter killed a deer; however after a short interview one subject recanted his story and gave a written statement admitting having shot both deer. CPO Holland issued one subject a citation for illegal take of deer – no valid permit and he issued both subjects one citation for illegal deer hunting in baited area. The deer was seized and taken to a local meat market for processing and donation to the Sportsmen for Hunger program.

#### CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO Taylor observed a buck deer with no tag on the rack of a jeep while driving down the roadway. Subject was issued a citation for failure to tag deer upon kill.

## EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CPO Smith observed a hunter hunting near a tree line. Upon closer examination, CPO Smith noticed there was a person dressed in camouflage clothing standing next to the hunter. CPO Smith walked across the field and met the hunters halfway. CPO Smith checked the hunter who was dressed in orange and found him to be hunting with an unplugged shotgun, and issued one citation. The person dressed in camouflage said he was not hunting. CPO Smith told the person that the site would be inspected where he was hunting and CPO Smith asked him what he was going to find. The person told CPO Smith he would find a 22 caliber rifle at the site and he was hunting squirrels with that gun. CPO Smith advised him squirrel season was not in during firearm deer season. CPO Smith asked to see the person's credentials and was handed a hunting license and habitat stamp. He did not have a valid FOID card, deer firearm permit, blaze orange, and had a rifle in the field (cited for each). While CPO Smith was dealing with the two hunters, two more hunters walked up to him. CPO Smith checked the firearms and permits of the father and son and found the father to be in possession of an unplugged shotgun. The son did not have a valid deer permit or hunting license; but had an invalid youth firearm permit for Bond County. CPO Smith issued the father one citation for unplugged shotgun, one citation for blaze orange (parental responsibility), one citation for no deer permit (parental responsibility), and one citation for no hunting license (parental responsibility).

CPO Smith observed a Missouri plated truck sitting inside a forested area. CPO Smith could not find any record of the registered owner on POS (Point of Sale). CPO Smith walked further into the woods and observed a patch of blaze orange clothing. CPO Smith approached the hunter who was hiding behind a tree. CPO Smith asked the person what he was doing. Before he replied CPO Smith observed a Ruger Carbine rifle erected against a tree. CPO Smith took the rifle into his possession and asked the individual for his deer permit and hunting license/habitat stamp. The person did not have any licenses or permits and was cited for no hunting license, hunting deer with a rifle, and no deer firearm permit.

## FAYETTE COUNTY

While working a waterfowl enforcement detail in Fayette County CPO Robert Compton checked a waterfowl hunter who was hunting without an FOID card. The subject was arrested and transported to the Fayette County Jail. The gun was seized as evidence.

CPO Smith issued one written warning for possession of firearm without a valid FOID, and one written warning for blaze orange.

The Fayette County Sheriff Department took a complaint of someone possibly shooting a deer from a vehicle. CPO Robert Compton and CPOT Paul Roper interviewed multiple subjects involved in the incident. Three subjects were charged with multiple wildlife violations and trespassing. One shotgun and one deer were seized.

## JASPER COUNTY

CPO Smith issued one written warning for failing to sign deer permit.

CPO Smith was given information from Sergeant Hyatt stating an area had bait in it. Sergeant Hyatt dropped CPO Smith off and CPO Smith walked into the area and found a hunter hunting out of a ground blind. CPO Smith observed a white substance on the ground close to the blind. CPO Smith asked the hunter to exit and asked what the white substance was on the ground. The hunter said it was deer cane. CPO Smith issued one citation for hunting over bait and one citation for feeding deer.

## MARION COUNTY

CPO Smith issued one written warning for failing to sign deer permit, one written warning for uncased firearm.

CPO Smith observed a truck sitting at parking lot 19 at Forbes Lake. The vehicle was not displaying a windshield permit. CPO Smith walked into the wooded area but could not locate the hunter. CPO Smith decided to wait for the hunter to

come back to his vehicle. The hunter approached and was not wearing blaze orange clothing. CPO Smith issued a citation for failing to wear blaze orange clothing during a firearm deer season and a written warning for the windshield pass.

#### WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Buhnerkempe encountered two firearm deer hunters from Maryland returning to their vehicle after legal shooting hours. Both hunters were found to be in possession of loaded firearms. One hunter also had left his deer permits in the vehicle. CPO Buhnerkempe issued two citations and one written warning.

Sgt. Hyatt and CPO Buhnerkempe encountered a group of hunters near Wynoose. After having a discussion with the hunters, multiple tagging violations were discovered. Three citations were issued for improper tagging of deer and unlawful use of another's deer permit.

CPO Buhnerkempe observed a hunter from the roadway who was sitting in a tree stand wearing no blaze orange clothing. Upon seeing him, the hunter put his orange back on. CPO Buhnerkempe waited for the hunter to return to the road after dark and he was cited for failure to wear blaze orange during firearm deer season.

While on patrol in Wayne County, CPO Buhnerkempe observed two antlered deer hanging in a barn. Upon checking the tags on the deer, it was determined neither had been reported as required by law. Two hunters were cited for failure to report harvest of deer.

CPO Buhnerkempe observed a hunter unload an ATV after dark and drive into the woods. CPO Buhnerkempe waited at the hunter's vehicle until he returned with two untagged deer in the back of the ATV. The hunter was instructed to tag the deer and received one citation for failure to immediately tag deer upon harvest.

CPO Buhnerkempe observed an ATV driving down the roadway shortly after legal shooting hours. CPO Buhnerkempe stopped the juvenile driver and asked to see his deer permits which he provided. The hunter stated he had killed a deer the previous day but had used his father's permit. CPO Buhnerkempe instructed the hunter to return to his house where they would speak with his father. The juvenile's father became very irate upon learning he would be receiving a citation and refused to take the citation. An Illinois State Trooper arrived on scene as backup and the hunter's father reconsidered his decision and accepted the citation after making numerous threats to the officers.

While working a night poaching detail, CPO Buhnerkempe heard a radio broadcast of a shooting in Fairfield. Being near the location he responded to the scene where the incident was ruled a homicide. CPO Buhnerkempe assisted State Police in securing the scene and securing witnesses. The murder suspect was apprehended a short time later.

#### **District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor**

**(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)**

#### JASPER COUNTY

CPO Mohrman attended the Firearms Committee Meeting in Springfield as the Region 5 representative.

CPO Mohrman discovered the remnants of a Methamphetamine lab in a remote area of Giant City State Park in Union County. The State Police Meth team responded to the area and cleaned the lab up.

CPO Mohrman responded to a deer poaching incident near the Little Grand Canyon in Jackson County. A doe was shot numerous times with 20 gauge shot shells in the early morning hours in front of a residence. During the investigation and canvassing the area CPO Mohrman discovered that the toilet facility at the Day Use Area of the Little Grand Canyon was shot up with the same type of shot shells. The U.S. Forest Service law enforcement was contacted and both incidents are under investigation.

## PERRY COUNTY

CPO Lewis investigated a subject in Perry County for deer hunting without a valid permit. The investigation revealed the subject went archery deer hunting and shot a deer prior to purchasing a permit, hunting license, or habitat stamp. After harvesting the deer he then went and purchased the required paperwork and checked the deer in. The hunter was cited for taking a deer without a valid permit and issued written warnings for hunting without a license, hunting without Habitat Stamp, and falsification of an IDNR record.

## WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Boston responded to a 911 call of a man with a gun at a boat ramp at Devil's Kitchen Lake on Crab Orchard refuge. The caller had hung up on the Williamson County Sheriff Dispatcher. CPO Boston, a Sheriff's Deputy, and a USFW officer arrived and found a male subject deceased of a single gunshot wound and a handgun. This person's cell phone was used to call 911. CPO Boston helped secure the scene until detectives arrived. It was later found that this subject had left a suicide note, stopped and dropped a check off at a funeral home with a note that his wife would call them tomorrow. It is still under investigation, but believed to be a suicide.

CPO Boston investigated a subject that had shot two deer during firearm season and only possessed one permit. The subject later went and purchased another permit. He was charged for the permit violation.

CPO Boston responded to a call from a Williamson County Sheriff Deputy of hunting without permission. Upon arriving at the initial call the deputy had found a Missouri subject asleep in the truck with Illinois plates. CPO Boston and the deputy interviewed this subject and were told he had come with a friend, the friend was not wearing blaze orange, was using a rifle and was wanted on warrants. CPO Thompson arrived and assisted with the investigation. CPO Boston and the K-9 officer searched for the subject into the dark. The subject had fled onto another property he was not permitted to be on and was not located. The truck had a license plate on it that was not registered for that truck. The registration sticker came back to stolen trailer out of Marion. The truck was towed and the three officers took the Missouri subject to the address where the subject that fled was supposed to be living. He has still not been located.